

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SS-15

NSC-05 SAM-01 SAJ-01 L-02 OES-03 PM-03 DODE-00 ACDA-05

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R 082324Z JAN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 004483

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELEC, TW

SUBJECT: ROC INTEREST IN REMOTE SENSING SERVICES

1. REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EARTH INFORMATION SERVICES (EIS) BRANCH OF MCDONNELL DOUGLAS ASTRONAUTICS COMPANY (MDAC), CALLED ON EA/ROC JANUARY 7 TO INFORM US THAT THEY WERE APPROACHED BY A TAIWAN FIRM, POLYTECH, INC., REGARDING PROVISION OF REMOTE SENSING SERVICES. EIS EMPLOYS REMOTE SENSING TECHNIQUES (AIRBORNE AND EARTH RESOURCE TECHNOLOGY SATELLITE - ERTS - DATA) AND COMPUTER ANALYSIS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND MONITORING, LAND USE MANAGEMENT, AND RESOURCE EXPLORATION AND MAPPING. IN RESPONSE TO OUR INQUIRY, MDAC SAID THAT AT THE LEVELS OF RESOLUTION THEY WERE ABLE TO OBTAIN, EIS TECHNIQUES COULD BE USED FOR MILITARY RECONNAISSANCE PURPOSES.

2. POLYTECH TOLD MDAC THAT A "GROC AGENCY" WAS INTER-
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ESTED IN EVENTUALLY ESTABLISHING A REMOTE SENSING CEN-

TER ON TAIWAN FOR WHICH TECHNOLOGY, TECHNICAL TRAINING, AND EQUIPMENT, E.G., AIRCRAFT, SCANNERS, CAMERAS, COMPUTERS AND RELATED EQUIPMENT, WOULD BE REQUIRED. WITHOUT SPECIFYING THE USES TO BE MADE OF MDAC'S SERVICES OR AN ACQUIRED ROC REMOTE SENSING CAPABILITY, POLYTECH

STATED THAT INFORMATION WAS DESIRED ON CONDITIONS ON BOTH TAIWAN AND THE MAINLAND. MDAC MADE NO COMMITMENT TO PROVIDE THE SERVICES REQUESTED BUT PLANS TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO TAIWAN IN LATE FEBRUARY, AT THE EARLIEST, FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS.

3. WE TOLD MDAC THAT WHILE WE HAD NO OBJECTION TO PROVISION OF SERVICES FOR ECONOMIC DATA GATHERING CONFINED SOLELY TO TAIWAN, WE WOULD ADOPT HIGHLY RESTRICTIVE ATTITUDE TOWARD PROVIDING ROC SERVICES OR CAPABILITIES IN THIS FIELD WHICH COULD BE USED FOR INTELLIGENCE PURPOSES AGAINST MAINLAND. COMPANY REPS INDICATED MDAC HAD NO DESIRE TO BECOME INVOLVED IN ROC INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES AND PROMISED TO KEEP US INFORMED OF FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS.

KISSINGER

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